

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A domain management system, comprising:
a domain name identifier coupled to receive input from an agent accessing the domain management system, the agent acting on behalf of a registrant of an active domain name, the domain name identifier generating a request for and accepting identification of a domain name to be the active domain name, the domain management system allowing an authorized agent to change information about the active domain name in the shared registry system;

an authorization checker responsive to an input from the agent to check whether an administrative ~~or technical~~ contact for the active domain name has identified to the domain management system that the agent ~~has authority~~ is authorized to alter change information about the active domain name in the shared registry system and, if the agent lacks authority ~~for to change information about the active domain name in the shared registry system~~, the authorization checker generating a communication to the administrative ~~or technical~~ contact to determine if the agent should be given authority for to change information about the active domain name in the shared registry system; and

an information change engine responsive to a request from the agent to change information about the active domain name, the information change engine generating an information change request that changes the information about the active domain name in the shared registry system in response to the request from the agent.

2. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change engine resides on a server of an accredited registrar.

3. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change engine generates a confirmation message indicating success of the information change request.

4. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change engine resides on a server coupled to a second server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

5. (Original) The domain management system of claim 4, wherein the information change request is passed through the second server and to the shared registry system.

6. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein, in response to determining that the agent is authorized for the active domain name, the information change engine causes display of a screen listing a plurality of functions for changing information within a zone file for the active domain name.

7. (Currently amended) A domain management system, comprising:
an authentication interface generator that generates a message that at least in part causes display on an operator terminal of a request for identification information from an operator seeking access to the domain management system;
a domain identification interface generator that generates a message that at least in part causes display on the operator terminal of a request for input from the operator of a domain name to be an active domain name;
an authentication checker that determines, in response to the identification information, if a contact identified ~~within a zone file~~ for the active domain name has authorized the operator to make changes to information within the zone file for the active domain name; and
an information change engine responsive to the authentication checker and to an information change request input by the an authorized operator, the information change engine causing a change to information about the active domain name in the zone file for the active domain name and generating a confirmation message that at least in part causes display of a screen on the operator terminal confirming execution of the information change request, the domain management system causing the zone file with the changed information about the active domain name to update the shared registry system.

8. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a diagnostic utility engine, responsive to input by the operator of at least one diagnostic request, the diagnostic utility engine executing a diagnostic utility corresponding to the at least one diagnostic request on the active domain name, the diagnostic utility engine returning a result of the diagnostic utility on the active domain name to a screen on the operator terminal.

9. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic utility accesses a shared registry system when executed.

10. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 9, wherein the diagnostic utility produces as an output data representing at least a portion of zone file information.

11. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic utility accesses a plurality of name servers when executed.

12. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server of an accredited registrar.

13. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

14. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server coupled to a second server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

15. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 14, wherein the information change engine is passed through the second server and to the shared registry system.

16. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein, in response to determining that the agent is authorized for the active domain name, the information change engine causes display of a screen listing a plurality of functions for changing information within a zone file for the active domain name.

17. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 16, wherein, if the operator is not authoritative for the active domain name, the authentication checker determines if the operator should be made authoritative for the active domain name.

18. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a function selection interface generator that generates a message at least in part providing a graphical user interface with a plurality of selectable functions for managing a domain name.

19. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a function selection interface generator that generates a message at least in part providing a graphical user interface with a plurality of selectable functions for managing a domain name, the plurality of selectable functions including domain name diagnostics and zone file change.

20. (Previously submitted) The domain management system of claim 16, further comprising a diagnostic utility engine, responsive to input by the operator of at least one diagnostic request, the diagnostic utility engine executing a diagnostic

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utility corresponding to the at least one diagnostic request on the active domain name, the diagnostic utility engine returning a result of the diagnostic utility on the active domain name to a screen on the operator terminal.